



Amendment
Application No. 09/703,869
Attorney Docket No. 001461

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended): A processor comprising:

a print data storing unit storing print data of an accepted print job;

a spool file storing unit storing said print data read out from said print data storing unit;

a processing unit for registering a print request command of said accepted print job, storing said print data of said print job in said print data storing unit, setting an information for identifying the end of storage of said print data into said print data storing unit, reading out said print data from said print data storing unit in accordance with said print request command and writing the print data to said spool file storing unit, and

a device control filter for analyzing and processing said print data sequentially read out from said spool file storing unit, until the information indicating the end of storage of said print data is set by said processing unit, and outputting said print data so analyzed and processed to a printer,

wherein said processing unit starts writing said print data read out from said print data storing unit to said spool file storing unit in accordance with said print request command, before said processing unit finishes storing said print data in said print data storing unit.

2. (Previously Presented): A processor as set forth in claim 1, wherein said processing unit informs said device control filter that the storing of said print data of said print job has been

completed, and wherein said device control filter analyzes and processes said print data that had been stored in and read out from said print data storing unit to the end of said print data.

3. (Previously Presented): A processor as set forth in claim 1, wherein said processing unit can accept and register a plurality of print jobs, and wherein said device control filter can analyze and process print data of respective print jobs read out in accordance with said print request command for output to a plurality of different printers.

4. (Currently Amended): A processor comprising:
a print data storing unit storing print data of a plurality of accepted print jobs;
a spool file storing unit storing said print data read out from said print data storing unit;
a processing unit for storing print data of said plurality of accepted print jobs in said print data storing unit, setting respectively information for identifying the end of storage of print data, which corresponding to each of said accepted jobs, into said print data storing unit, reading out sequentially a print data of each print job from said print data storing unit, and writing said print data to said spool file storing unit; and

a device control filter for reading out said print data from said spool file storing unit, analyzing and processing said print data read out from said spool file storing unit, until the information indicating the end of storage of said print data is set by said processing unit, and outputting said print data to a printer,

wherein when said device control filter is not analyzing and processing said print data, said processing unit reads out said print data of each of said print jobs in accordance with a specific condition which determines an output sequence of said registered print jobs stored in said print data storing unit, and writes said read out print data to said spool file storing unit, and said specific condition is set by a user.

5. (Previously Presented): A processor as set forth in claim 4, wherein said processing unit starts writing said print data of said print job to said spool file storing unit in accordance with a print request command, before said processing unit finishes storing of said print data in said print data storing unit.

6. (Previously Presented): A processor as set forth in claim 4, wherein said processing unit can read out print data of said print job from said print data storing unit for supply to said device control filter only when a requester of printing releases said print job from a hold condition in a case where said print job is accepted in the hold condition.